Footwear Design and Development Institute, Central Footwear Training Centres, The Khadi and Village Industries Commission, The Indian Institute of leather products and Designated Agencies identified in the State Governments have participated in the NLDP for Human Resource Development. In the year 1997-98, the thrust of the programme is entirely on improvement of the artisan sector and providing linkages between the un-organised and the organised sectors.

[Translation]

Export of Menthol Oil

2848. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Menthol and its oil exported during each of the last three years; country-wise;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost export of Menthol and its oil during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) The quantity of Menthol exported during the last three years and the foreign exchange earned therefrom is as under:

	Menthol	
	Quanity (in tons)	Value (Rs.in Crores)
1994-95	710.25	25.06
1995-96	1109.83	64.79
Apr.'96-Nov.'96	1332.23	118.86

(Source: DGCI&S)

Menthol Oil, not being separately classified as such in the ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import items on the basis of which DGCI&S maintains export data, quantity of menthol oil exported is not available. However export data for Japanese Mint Oil (Ex-Mentha Arvensis) Peppermint Oil (Ex-Mentha Piperita) Dementholised Japanese Mint Oil (Ex-Mentha-Arvensis) Spearmint Oil (Ex-mentha spicata) Watermint Oil (Ex-Mentha aquatic) Horsemint Oil (Ex-Mentha sylvestries) and Bergamont Oil (Ex-Mentha Citrate) and foreign exchange earned therefrom is as below:

	Quantity (in tons)	Value (Rs.in Crores)
1994-95	1338.42	37.69
1995-96	1256.18	44.82
Apr.'96-Nov.'96	1556.56	73.13

DGCI&S publication "Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India by Countries" available in the Parliament Library, gives country-wise detail of these exports.

(c) Continuing interaction with trade and Industry to identify and solve problems related to exports, and Market Development Assistance to the exporting community through the respective Export Promotion Council for participation in specialised trade fairs, exhibition and buyer-seller meet and other promotional activities are part of ongoing efforts to boost exports.

SC/ST Employees

2849. SHRI N.J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the post-wise total number of appointments made in departments/undertakings under his ministry during the last three years as on date;

(b) the post-wise number of candidates of SCs/STs out of them;

(c) whether some posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Tribes are lying vacant in departments/undertakings under his ministry at present;

(d) if so, the post-wise details thereof;

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for filling up the reserved posts; and

(f) the time by which the reserved vacant posts are likely to be filled up and the reasons for delay in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Foreign Lawyers and Consultant Firms

2850. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY:

SHRI HARADHAN ROY:

SHRI BASU DEV ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the law to enable foreign lawyers and consultant firms to practice in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.